

**PERINATAL SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION (PSAP)  
SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES  
November 8, 2007**

**SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT**

Terrence McGaw, M.D.  
John Hiatt, Ph.D.  
Colleen Morris, M.D.  
Susan Doctor, Ph.D  
T.J Rosenberg  
Charlene Herst, Bureau of Community Health (BCH)  
Barbara Caskey proxy for Maria Canfield, Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Agency (SAPTA)

**SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT**

Candice Kidd  
Maggie Carlton, Senator  
Beverly Neyland, M.D.

**STATE HEALTH DIVISION STAFF PRESENT**

Judy Wright, Bureau Chief, Bureau of Family Health Services (BFHS)  
Muriel Kronowitz, Perinatal Substance Abuse Prevention (PSAP) Coordinator, BFHS  
Victor Lamas, Administrative Assistant 1, BFHS

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Cynthia Dietrick, R.N., Mojave Mental Health Clinics (MMHC)  
Lorraine Vazquez, Parent, Rural Mental Health Consortium (RMHC)  
Jennifer McKay, M.D.  
Thomas Stephens, Student

**CALL TO ORDER**

Dr. Terrence McGaw called the Perinatal Substance Abuse Prevention (PSAP) Subcommittee meeting to order at **9:40 a.m.** The meeting was videoconferenced at the Nevada State Health Division (NSHD), 4150 Technology Way, Suite 153, Carson City and the Bureau of Licensure & Certification (BLC), 4220 S. Maryland Parkway, Building D, Suite 810, Las Vegas, Nevada. This was a public meeting, and the public was invited to make comments. In accordance with the Open Meeting Law, this meeting was posted at the following locations: Bureau of Family Health Services (BFHS), Carson City; NSHD, Carson City; Nevada State Library and Archives, Carson City; Washoe County District Health Department (WCDHD), Reno; Elko County Library, Elko; BLC, Las Vegas; and the Health Division Website: [www.health.nv.gov](http://www.health.nv.gov)

Introductions were made around the table.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 21, 2007**

Dr. Susan Doctor motioned to approve the September 21, 2007 minutes. T.J. Rosenberg seconded. **MOTION APPROVED**

## **PSAP SUBCOMMITTEE CO-CHAIR REPORT**

No report was discussed

### **MARCH OF DIMES UPDATES**

Dr. McGaw stated he and Muriel Kronowitz had a teleconference meeting with Dale Andreason and Michelle Gorelow from March of Dimes (MOD) on September 21, 2007 to discuss the possibility for MOD to recognize and award physicians and their offices for their successful involvement with the American College of Gynecology (ACOG) training. The principles of the concept were discussed and MOD appeared to be open to the possibility. More meetings will be held to discuss the concept. Dr. McGaw stated Mr. Andreason also expressed interest in working with the state to electronically educate the public in rural Nevada. Ms. Kronowitz stated she sent a proposal to the MOD for \$2,500 for additional travel money for the start-up of the fetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD) clinics in northern Nevada. MOD will make a decision on the proposal after Thanksgiving.

### **UPDATE ON THE FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDER (FASD) CLINICS AND PROGRESS FOR THE CLINICS TO BE HELD AT MOJAVE MENTAL HEALTH CENTER**

Dr. Colleen Morris stated the scheduling for the number of FASD clinics in southern Nevada has increased. Over the eighteen months in which the multidisciplinary clinics have been held, a total of 145 children have been evaluated. About 50% of the children evaluated are in the foster care system, 25% were adopted children and the rest of the children are in the care of biologic relatives. More than half of the 145 children evaluated had a diagnosis of FASD. Some were diagnosed as not having FASD and diagnosed with other genetic conditions. The majority of the children who did not meet the criteria for FASD were exposed to alcohol or drugs prenatally with a family history of mental illness, with the child having a mental illness as well. Dr. Morris stated Dr. Jennifer McKay expressed an interest in being involved with starting the clinics in Reno. Dr. Morris stated an obstacle in setting up the clinics in Reno is the difficulty of finding a neuropsychologist who could do the cognitive testing. Ms. Kronowitz stated Dr. Tracy Pitts would not be able to assist with the clinics. Subcommittee members will continue to look for a neuropsychologist and keep Ms. Kronowitz informed of any suggestions. Dr. Morris stated a start-up date for the clinics can not be discussed until the Reno team had been assembled. Dr. McGaw expressed the importance of being able to show the legislature positive outcome data to receive future clinic funds.

### **DISCUSSION/UPDATES REGARDING DR. CHASNOFF TRAINING**

Ms. Kronowitz stated Dr. Ira Chasnoff's training will be held on January 23 through the 26<sup>th</sup> of 2008 at the Airport Plaza in Reno.

### **DISCUSSION ABOUT STRATEGIES FOR GETTING CONTINUING EDUCATION UNITS (CEU) CREDITS**

Ms. Kronowitz stated she contacted the University of Alaska and obtained feedback regarding their continuing education units (CEU) course. She would like to know what steps to take next. Dr. Doctor stated in order to provide CEU's, an understanding of the criteria requested by the different agencies is needed. Cynthia Dietrick stated she approves CEU's for nurses for the Mojave Mental Health Center (MMHC) and would be

willing to help Ms. Kronowitz with the curriculum needed for CEUs. Ms. Kronowitz will research to see if the University of Alaska provides their CEU curriculum online.

#### **MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ABOUT PSAP MEMBERSHIP EXPANSION**

Dr. McGaw stated the Maternal and Child Health Advisory Board (MCHAB) will be meeting on December 7, 2007 and will consider the recommendations made by this subcommittee for the inclusion of new members. Ms. Kronowitz stated a representative from the Department of Education (DOE) needs to be included. She will also continue to try and contact Dr. Susan Pittenger from the Reno/Sparks Indian Colony to be on board as a representative of the Native-American communities. Ms. Kronowitz will also contact Frankie McCabe with DOE to see if she knows of someone in her department who would be interested in joining the committee. Dr. McGaw stated the names of Loraine Vazquez and Johnette Oman will be submitted to MCHAB. **NO ACTION TOOK PLACE**

#### **UPDATE BY PSAP COORDINATOR**

Ms. Kronowitz stated a draft of a brochure which would be handed to offices along with the ACOG training. She would like to get feedback from the Subcommittee. Ms. Kronowitz stated the brochure was meant to be as easy to understand as possible. It was suggested to have two versions of the brochure: one containing resources geared towards northern Nevada and the other towards southern. It was also suggested to include both local and national resources along with the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Agency's (SAPTA) phone number and website. Ms. Rosenberg stated it would also be important to include a statement stating a woman would be able to obtain help for drinking while pregnant without having any lawful consequences. Ms. Kronowitz stated she is in the process of submitting a proposal to Northrop Grumman to bring FASD diagnostic clinics to rural areas. She stated she had conversations with MMHC about collaborating and being a subcontractor. She subsequently found MMHC did not meet the criteria and will write the proposal with University of Nevada School of Medicine (UNSOM) as one of the subcontractors. Dr. Morris stated the Lili Claire Foundation had also prepared a proposal specifically to bring the FASD skills training program to communities.

Dr. McKay joined the meeting and introduced herself.

Ms. Vazquez stated the rural Mental Health Consortiums are prepared to broadcast the FASD skills training to the rural areas. Ms. Caskey stated it would be useful to collaborate with the SAPTA coalitions who work in the rural areas to help in educating the public.

#### **SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS TO STAFF**

Recommendations to staff were given throughout the meeting

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT AND DISCUSSION**

Charlene Herst stated she attended the tobacco cessation training for trainers given by the University of Arizona's Healthcare Partnership. The training was very useful because the trainees can teach others and setup cessation and intervention support groups within worksites and clinics in the state.

Dr. Morris stated she attended a leadership conference for FASD held in Atlanta. She related that federal policy makers now understand what FASD/Alcohol Related Neurodevelopment Disorders (ARND) means and will push to establish criteria for diagnosing these individuals (without having facial features). She stated the National Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (NOFAS) acquired grant funds to work with community health centers in targeted cities to train their personnel in identifying women problem drinkers and potential FASD in children. NOFAS is very interested in pursuing this in Nevada and would provide the training to health centers. Dr. Morris stated Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS) still does not have a specific diagnostic code on the International Classification of Diseases (ICD)-10 or the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM V). FAS also needs to be specifically listed in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) instead of other health impaired. She also said that lobbying to get FAS diagnostic codes in the ICD-10, the DSM V and the IDEA would need to come from the local and state level. Dr. Morris suggested Subcommittee members lobby for FAS to be included in these classifications and to make it an agenda item for the next meeting. They would need to petition to include FAS on the DSM with the American Psychological Association. For the ICD-10, petitioning would need to go through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and Medicaid/Medicare. Dr. McGaw stated it would also be useful to lobby state legislators. Dr. Morris stated lobbying for the IDEA would need to be with federal representatives. Dr. Morris stated the conference also presented success stories of adults with FAS who learn new things and why it is worth treating them.

Next meeting is scheduled for January 18, 2008

Meeting adjourned at **11:20 am**